

Old Town Historical Committee
May 12, 2008
Monday

5:45 PM
Minutes

Mr. Jarvis called the meeting to order at 5:50. Present for roll call were Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Deeds and Mrs. Rush-Ekelberry. Also, in attendance were Mayor Ebert, Mr. Garrett (Main Street Program) and Mr. Strayer (Development Director).

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Rush-Ekelberry moved to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2008 meeting. Mr. Deeds seconded the motion.

VOTE: **AYES: Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Deeds, Mrs. Rush-Ekelberry**
 NAYS:
 Motion carried.

Resolved Items: None at this time

Pended Items:

06-01 Interurban Building Update

Mr. Sims stated that we have applied for a Heritage Ohio grant. That grant money was only applicable to certain portions of the renovation. Interior finishing was not to be part of that money. We are currently re-ordering projects to reflect this. It made sense to separate the job into two parts; one for which the grant money can be used and one for which it cannot.

Additionally, a cost estimate was prepared by an independent third party at the beginning of this project. At this time, we are going back to get a more detailed analysis. This week, Mr. Sims is meeting with the architect to define scope services and the role we wish them to play, so we can get a proposal from them.

The next step is putting together a bid package and getting out on the streets. Once a General Contractor is established, the project can hopefully start mid-to-late July. The Phase one, exterior portion, should be on track to be finished this year.

Mr. Jarvis added that the Village of Canal Winchester does now own the additional 11 feet of the building, as well as, an easement for use of the green area adjacent to the building for landscaping and improvements.

Mr. Garrett stated that the Main Street Program has raised \$25,000 locally for this project and a match was awarded from Heritage Ohio in the form of a grant. Mr. Garrett thanked Mr. Bill Sims and Ms. Nanisa Osborn for their help in getting the application together to be able to apply for this grant.

Mr. Jarvis thanked Main Street Program and the Village staff for putting together a very professional and fantastic looking package for the application.

Mr. Tony Note, Vice Chairman of Landmarks Commission, stated that the roofing material has been approved by Landmarks; however, other exterior materials have not been brought to Landmarks at this time. Mr. Note reminds staff to bring those in front of Landmarks as soon as they are chosen.

Mr. Jarvis stated that he will be at the next Landmarks Committee meeting, but they do not yet have material and color samples to bring. He is aware that the roof and the removal of the stucco are the only items for which they have a certificate at this time.

Mr. Note added that they will make arrangements for special meetings if needed to keep the project moving. Mr. Jarvis thanked him for that offer.

08-05 Review of reformatted business development brochure

Mr. Strayer referred to a brochure included in the packets that will walk prospective business owners through the process of starting a business in downtown Canal Winchester.

Mr. Strayer asked for input from the Committee before printing them and getting them out.

Mr. Jarvis noted that it looks good. Mr. Deeds suggested that the Main Street Program be more defined within the brochure.

Mr. Jarvis moved to modify the agenda to add Old Town Preservation Guidelines. Motion was seconded by Mr. Deeds.

VOTE: **AYES: Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Deeds, Mrs. Rush-Ekelberry**
 NAYS:
 Motion carried.

Added: Old Town Preservation Guidelines

Mr. Jarvis looked over the Preservation Guidelines just to see if anything needs updating. Mr. Jarvis asked if some of the guidelines that say “must” are being enforced. Most of these guidelines are timeless, but policy and process may need updated.

Mr. Garrett stated that the zoning guidelines are not listed anywhere in this brochure.

Mr. Jarvis suggested that a reference to the zoning guidelines be added to the Preservation Guidelines, so that the reader has the information of where to look, should they want to investigate the zoning guidelines.

Mr. Note stated that two months ago there was a meeting between Planning and Zoning and Landmarks with the purpose of reviewing guidelines and making changes.

Mr. Jarvis requested that either Old Town or Council review what has come out of the joint meeting between P&Z and Landmarks.

Mr. Jarvis added that the demolition considerations state that the property owner **must** take complete photographic documentation of the building inside and out in the existing conditions,

have written documentation of the building's condition by an architect, structural engineer or other building professional and provide a statement of means outlining the reasons for demolition. Mr. Jarvis questions if this is being done on all demolitions. Is this merely a guideline, or is it something that must be done? And if it **must**, is it being enforced?

Mr. Garrett stated that, in his opinion, the Village is often delinquent in their duties to adhere to many of the guidelines set forth by Landmarks, though maybe not maliciously.

Mrs. Rush-Ekelberry added that it sets a bad example if people are being told to follow guidelines that the Village doesn't always follow.

Mr. Jarvis recommends that the demolition guidelines, and other similar guidelines, be re-worded to sound more like a **guideline**, if it is, or create some way to enforce compliance, if it is not.

New Items for Discussion: None at this time

New Business: None at this time

Old Business:

Mr. Strayer is working with the Central Ohio CIC to fill out the application for the State with regards to the old gas station. Mr. Strayer will then re-engage the developer that has done some preliminary site plans in the past. And, hopefully, move forward to Landmarks and P&Z for some approvals. Once a guarantee is received from the State that we will be receiving the funds, we will proceed with the demolition of the gas station.

Adjournment:

Mrs. Rush-Ekelberry moved to adjourn this meeting of the Old Town Committee and was seconded by Mr. Deeds.

VOTE: **AYES: Mr. Jarvis, Mr. Deeds, Mrs. Rush-Ekelberry**
NAYS:

Meeting adjourned at 6:37P.M.